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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Nobuyuki SHIMAMOTO et al.**

Group Art Unit: 2173

Serial No.: 09/821,794

Examiner: **Xiomara L. BAUTISTA**

Filed: **March 30, 2001**

Confirmation No.: 4995

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING SERVICE TO REMOTE
USERS BY INTER-COMPUTER COMMUNICATIONS**

Attorney Docket No.: **010296**

Customer Number: **38834**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

February 26, 2004

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Sir:

FEB 27 2004

Technology Center 2100

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated January 29, 2004

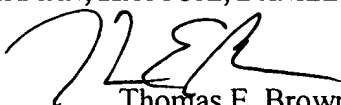
In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-5, 12 and 13; and
Group (II), Claims 6-9; and Group (III) Claims 10 and 11.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1-5, 12 and 13 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, and it is understood that Applicant's rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

Response to Restriction Requirement
Attorney Docket No. 010296
Serial No. 09/821,794

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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